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Contents for Week of January 23, 1928. Vol. VI. No. 26.

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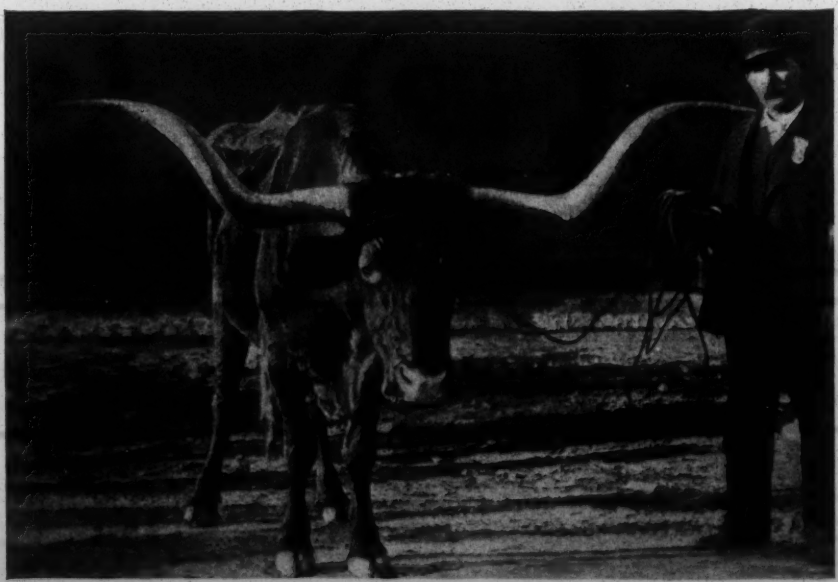
NOTE: Teachers of geography eager to keep their instruction abreast of the most recent changes not found in books, will discover important shifts in the world's geography reported in Bulletins No. 2 and No. 5.



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OLD GERONIMO WAS ONE OF THE LAST OF THE "TEXAS LONGHORNS" WHICH HAVE BEEN SUPERSEDED BY MORE "BEEFY" STEERS (see Illustration Following No. 2).

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

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Tientsin: Where U. S. Marines Put Out an American Fire

"If the Army and the Navy ever gaze on Heaven's scenes,
They will find the streets are guarded by United States Marines."
—*Marine Song.*

IN THIS case the streets were in Tientsin, but when fire broke out in an American-owned fuel oil depot, the Marine guard prevented destruction of property valued at $25,000,000.

Months ago, when the Cantonese army swept north threatening Peking, the Marine contingent protecting the American colony at Shanghai also moved north to Peking's port, which is Tientsin.

If you spread a tissue paper map of the Eastern United States over a map of Eastern China, of similar scale, you can understand why the Marines have been stationed at Tientsin and why American capital has invested so heavily in this Chinese port.

Tientsin Port Itself Has Two Ports

Let New Orleans be Shanghai at the mouth of the Yangtze, then St. Louis will lie near Hankow. Nationalist troops, having captured Shanghai and Hankow, moved northeast toward Peking and Tientsin. These latter cities lie in the relative positions of Pittsburgh and Baltimore. The United States Marines came up the coast, around Florida (Shantung Peninsula) into Chesapeake Bay (Gulf of Chihli).*

Tientsin often goes by the title of "port of Peking." Yet Tientsin itself has two ports, Tangku and Chingwangtao. While Tientsin straddles the Hai Ho, a navigable river, deep draft vessels such as 'round the world tourist liners dare not cross the bar. Instead they drop passengers and freight into lighters which ply to Tangku at the river's mouth, whence trains run 27 miles up to Tientsin. Peking lies 87 miles beyond Tientsin at the foot of the mountains. Chingwangtao to the north used to be the winter port until the Hai River acquired a modern ice breaker.

Stationing of American troops recalls a less pleasant expedition by Americans twenty-eight years ago. The secret society of the Fists of Righteous Harmony, better known as the Boxers, had inflamed China with anger toward the foreigner, toward treaty ports, railroads, schools and churches. Finally a detachment from the allied warships standing guard off Tientsin began a march to relieve the foreign colony in the capital, which had been isolated. Rioters had cut the Tientsin-Peking railroad.

They fought their way to within 23 miles of Peking. The odds were too great. They began to retreat. The whole civilized world was on edge by this time, for no news came from the detachment. The allied commanders, except the American commander, then demanded permission to occupy Taku forts which defend the Hai Ho mouth. When the Chinese refused, big guns reduced the mud forts. This attack was a signal for the mobilization of a large foreign-

*How geography can be held responsible for China's problems, her products and her population, is explained in "The Geography of China," National Geographic Magazine for June, 1927. Many more articles and illustrations dealing with China can be found by referring to the Cumulative Index.

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TYPICAL SCENE IN THE STOCK YARDS, CHICAGO

There are about 200 cattle in the first pen in the foreground and probably several thousand in the area of the picture. Yards receive about 7,000 cattle, 17,000 sheep, and 24,100 hogs for one working day. The receipts of cattle in one year were 2,601,000; of sheep, 5,378,000, and of hogs, 6,618,000 (see Bulletin No. 2).

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Changes in the Geography of Meat

REPORTS of the scarcity of steaks, roasts and other beef specialties show the necessity of everyone becoming familiar with the changes in the world's supply of meat since the World War.

In beef cattle, as in wheat production, the United States leads the world, with close to 60 million head. Russia probably ranks next with slightly under 40 million, although both Argentina and Brazil have almost as many. Germany, France, and Australia follow with 17, 14 and 13 million. There are heavy holdings of cattle in India and other parts of the Orient, but the beef production from these countries is very light owing to religious scruples and vegetarian habits.

Britain, France and Germany Increase Beef Imports

The World War seems greatly to have affected the meat-eating habits of the West. Apparently France learned meat eating from her allies. Her pre-war imports of beef were only 41 million pounds, while she exported 62 million pounds. Now the exports have been cut almost to one-half the former figure, while the imports have increased more than sixfold. They are now 7½ per cent of all international exports.

Germany has doubled her imports and now takes 13 per cent of world shipments; her exports both before and since the war are negligible.

Great Britain is the greatest importer of beef. She imports now more than one and three-quarters billion pounds per year, against one and a quarter billions in pre-war days.

Argentina Leading Beef Butcher of the World

Changes in the sources of beef have not been great; rather, the pre-war tendencies have been followed out. Russia was never an important factor in Europe's beef supply, and her withdrawal from European affairs had little effect on the meat trade.

Argentina is the world's chief beef purveyor. Before the war her contribution was 45 per cent of the total international exports; now it has grown to 50 per cent. Uruguay is a poor second with 11 per cent, about double her pre-war proportion. Australia, which furnished 14 per cent of beef shipments before 1914, sends out only 9 per cent now. The United States, too, has dropped from a 10 per cent contribution in the years prior to the war to 5 per cent to-day.

The only other country with exports which equal 5 per cent of world exports is, strangely, the Netherlands, with more than 7 per cent. This country has only two million cattle. The explanation lies in the heavy imports of beef, most of which are re-exported.

The United States the Leading Exporter of Pork

Pork plays second fiddle to beef among the meats consumed by man. There are far fewer hogs in the world than cattle—about 250 million as against more than 600 million. The United States leads all other countries in the number of its hogs—between 50 and 60 millions. The nearest competitors are Germany with 16 millions and Russia with 14 millions.

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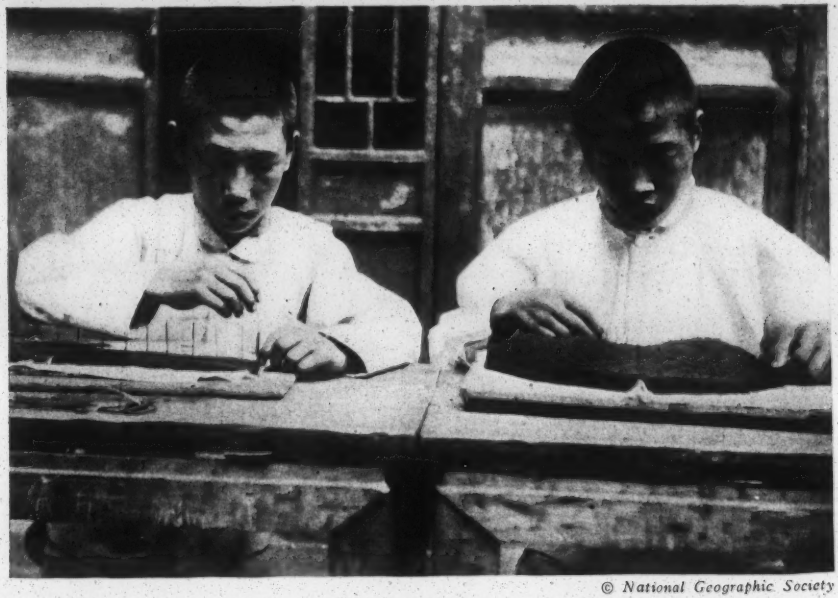
drilled Chinese army which fought and lost a bloody battle with the fleet forces in Tientsin itself. That allied victory and a second and successful march on Peking broke the back of the Boxer war.

Since Tientsin became a treaty port in 1860 foreigners have been busily occupied in making it one of the most cosmopolitan of cities. Wilhelm-Strasse in Tientsin runs into Victoria Road, which becomes Rue du France. Yamaguchi Gai, on the Japanese river frontage, follows the river's curve, to where a bridge crosses into Baron Czekam Strasse of the former Austria-Hungary quarter. Baron Czekam Strasse becomes Via Vittorio Emanuelle in the Italian quarter and, a few blocks farther, Petersburg Road in the Russian settlement. There is no avenue of the United States in this Chinese city of many nations, because Americans content themselves with living in the French and English quarters. Belgium also has large commercial interests in Tientsin, but her representatives have named no important streets.

The Grand Junction for Canals, Railroads, Crops and Products

Tientsin affords splendid opportunities for an ambitious real estate salesman. No rosy picture of expansion could be too pink for Tientsin prospects. Even now it has a population of 838,000. The Grand Canal terminates at Tientsin, and it has been supplemented by the more important Tientsin-Pukow railroad line over which China's crack Blue Train usually runs from Shanghai to Peking. Productive Manchuria and all north and northwest China ask Tientsin to handle their export business. Hair nets, Chinese carpets, eggs, fresh, dried and otherwise, furs for Fifth Avenue, and pig bristles already come to the United States from Tientsin in large quantities.



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THEIR PRODUCT REACHES THE UNITED STATES THROUGH TIENTSIN PORT

Hair nets are stretched on a board into which nails have been driven. Occasionally boys do this work, but it is done chiefly by women and girls. The long nets on the left are the fringe type and the round ones on the right are the cap nets. North China is a major source of hair nets for American trade. The business suffered a severe setback when bobbed hair became the fashion.

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The Ibos of Nigeria, Who Help Supply Us with Chocolate

A BLACK-SKINNED chieftain from the Gulf of Guinea came to New York recently to talk business.

His people, he told New York importers, helped supply America with cacao beans for chocolate sodas and cocoa. He came to New York hoping to deal directly with the importers of cacao instead of bartering with representatives of London concerns on the Guinea coast.*

The coming of this chieftain to New York and his mission suggest the startling change which has come in the colonies on the Guinea coast. The progress of the Ibos in Nigeria from cannibalism to cacao producing is typical of the new age in Guinea.

The Ibos are distributed over the greater part of Nigeria, from the coast to about 200 miles inland. It is estimated that there are 4,000,000 of them, forming half the population of the southern part of the Protectorate.

Homes Built on Mud Pie Principle

The Ibo country lies within the belt, only a few hundred miles east of the Slave Coast, where many negro slaves formerly were rounded up for sale. Bridgeless noses, wide-open nostrils, thick, protruding lips and powerful jaws are the striking features of the tribesmen.

The Ibos now are quiet and peaceful, but some of the older generation recall the days when cannibalism was rampant. After a battle between neighboring tribes, captives were killed and their bodies feasted upon. Often strangers were caught and slaves bought with the intention of feasting on their flesh.

Each Ibo family has a compound inclosing several huts. When the young Ibo feels he should have a home of his own, he seeks a location and puddles mud until the 10-foot walls of his compound and the sides of his huts are completed. Thatched roofing material is obtained from near-by forests.

The compounds are set at every conceivable angle and the village street winds in the most bewildering fashion, so that each compound faces it. In the evening the street is filled with life. While the boys shoot bows and arrows and go through native ceremonials, the girls dance, the fathers play *okwe*, the Ibo "national" game, and the women sit in groups and gossip while peeling *edde*, an edible root something like the Jerusalem artichoke.

The Penalty for Stealing a Yam is Death

Farming is the principal Ibo occupation, but where fish are not held sacred the tribesmen are also good fishermen. When foreign tackle is not available, they use home-made nets. The yam is the principal Ibo food. Some of the tubers grow a foot long and seven inches in diameter. An Ibo eats from four to five a day. He guards his supply of yams as he does his most precious possessions, and the penalty for yam stealing in Ibo land is death.

Each man has from three to five wives, according to his wealth. Old maids and bachelors are looked upon with contempt, and to be a childless wife is a calamity.

*It is suggested that pupils locate the Guinea Coast on a map of Africa, so they will not confuse it with the Guianas in South America. British Guiana is the subject of Bulletin No. 5.

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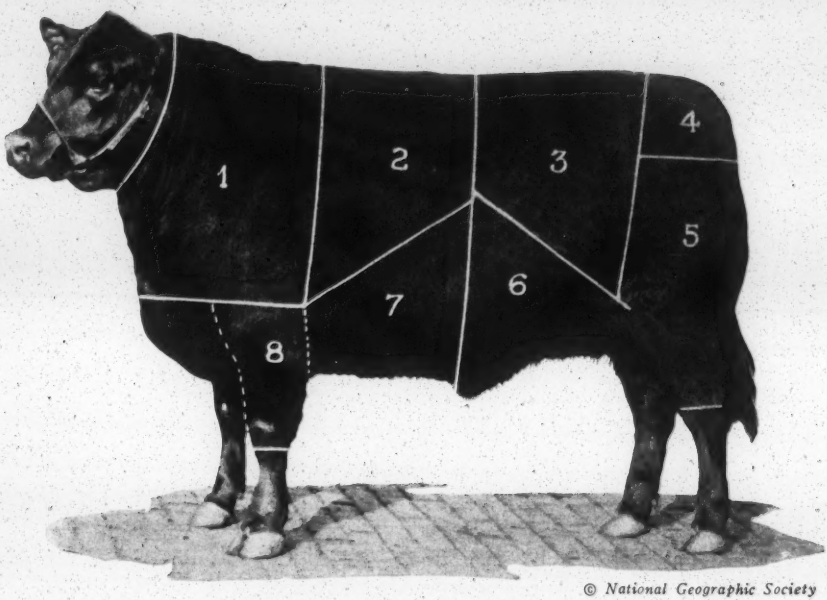
The United States is also first in pork exports, sending out nearly one and a quarter billion pounds, more than half the total international shipments. The next most important exporters are Denmark with 463 million pounds, and the Netherlands with 259 millions.

In pork England is again the world's best customer, taking more than one and a third billion pounds of the world's exports, 57 per cent of the total.

NOTE: One hundred and one illustrations of the sources of our food accompany "How the World is Fed," National Geographic Magazine, January, 1916. Additional material on beef is contained in "Cattle of the World," December, 1925.

Bulletin No. 2, January 23, 1928.



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THE CUTS OF A MODERN BEEF STEER, A PRODUCT OF INTENSIVE BREEDING

1, The "chuck"; 2, the rib; 3, the loin; 4, the rump; 5, the "round"; 6, the flank; 7, the plate; 8, the shank. The plate extends forward under the shank and includes the brisket. Contrast this stocky animal with the old Longhorn steer on the cover.

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Scientists Seek Source of Lower California's Lost Prosperity

THE MYSTERY of why Lower California (Mexico) should be a desert waste has become a subject of scientific scrutiny.

It is known that a population far more numerous than the handful now living there once occupied the peninsula, which is 800 miles long and averages about 80 miles wide. Once prosperous Spanish missions dotted the valleys, but their walls now serve no worthier task than penning scraggly hogs. A few cattle wander over bare plains.

Why has agriculture died out in Lower California? What crops grew by the mission walls that do not grow now? A partial answer to these questions has been obtained by scientists using a novel archeological method. They collected adobe mud bricks from the ancient missions, dissolved the bricks in water, and screened out straw and seeds accidentally preserved by the Indian brick makers. They found olive pits, watermelon and bean seeds, barley, wheat, mustard and other seeds which may give hints for an agricultural revival in Lower California.

Cultivation Limited to Tip of Long Peninsula

There is no question about the soil's ability to support plant life. Because the desert lowlands of Lower California are isolated and subjected to long-continued droughts, sandwiched between brief, heavy rains, there has been developed in them perhaps the richest and most extraordinary desert plant life in the world. Botanists whose observations have ranged from the cold-stunted growth of Arctic tundra to the luxuriant foliage of the moist tropics, declare that they have found nowhere such a grotesque riot of extraordinary plant forms as in this Mexican peninsula.

At present farming on the peninsula is limited to the very tip. San Jose del Cabo's name tells quaintly its geographical location. It is "St. Joseph of the End" and is at almost the exact southern terminus of the long, narrow peninsula. By virtue of this location it just manages to edge into some of the rains of the mainland's summer rainy season. Close about it is a fertile little valley in which the summer rains make possible the raising of sugar-cane and other crops.

Though La Paz Has Few Pearls Now, It Remains Center of Industry

La Paz pearls alone bid for world interest in Lower California. Sheltered La Paz, part way up the mainland flank of the peninsula, with its white, flat-topped mud houses, surrounded by desert, might almost have been set down bodily from Arabia.

One gains this impression especially in the evenings, when many of the townspeople go to their roofs to enjoy the cool night air. La Paz has been the place of importance in Lower California for many centuries. Cortez repaired his schooners there, and centuries later, Walker, the Yankee adventurer, raised his flag in the town.

But it is as a pearling center that La Paz is most famed. The first Spaniards to visit the place were about to sail away in disgust when they discovered that the naked Indians possessed pearls worth the ransoms of many kings.

UMI

In Ibo land fourteen years is an eligible age to marry. Girls sometimes prepare for a year for their "coming out party." They go into seclusion and do nothing but paint their bodies and eat the best their families can afford, because the fatter the maiden the happier the prospective bridegroom.

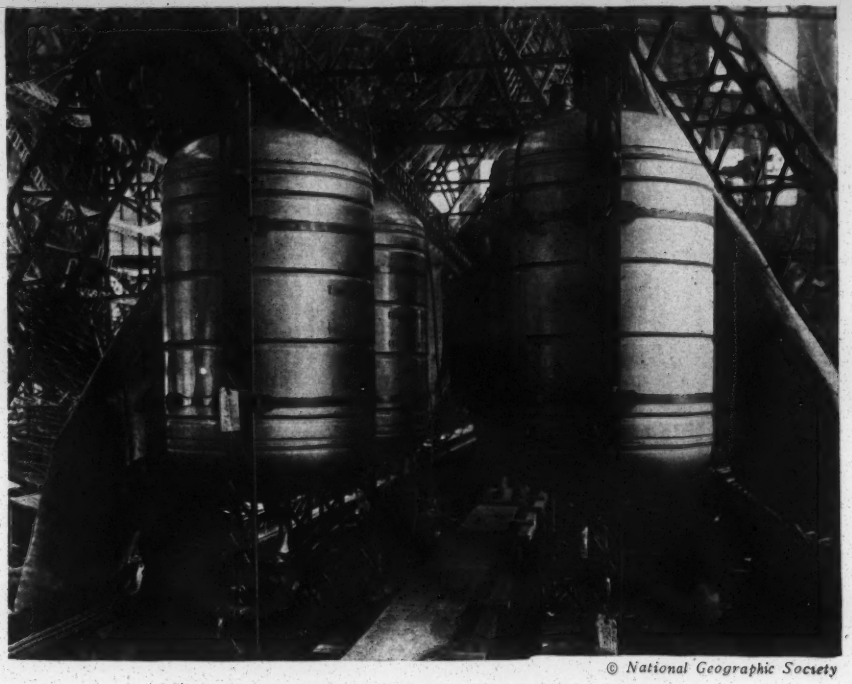
Ibos Easily Converted by Missionaries

Before burial, the body of a deceased tribesman is painted with camwood and propped in an upright position. All his worldly possessions are placed before him.

The body of a king or wealthy Ibo is placed on a clay "bed" over a fire. It may lie in state for years. For crepe, strips of cloth or a shirt hang from a tall pole near the death hut.

The Ibos are friendly to missionaries and are easily converted. While they have their idols, medicine men and sacred animals, they believe in a Supreme Being who lives in a spirit world. They believe that after death they will be spirits and will return to their villages to mingle with their tribe, but that they then will be invisible.

Bulletin No. 3, January 23, 1928.



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ONE OTHER USE OF BAUXITE FROM BRITISH GUIANA

The inner structure of great dirigibles like the *Los Angeles* is made with duralumin, a strong but light metal. As its name indicates aluminum from bauxite is an important constituent of duralumin (see Bulletin No. 5).

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British Guiana, Where Kitchen Cooking Dishes Come From

BRITISH GUIANA will have more and more to say, as the years go by, about the pans and kettles with which we equip our kitchens.

This fact is concealed in the terse statement by the Department of Commerce that the United States during one recent year imported 173,141 tons of bauxite from British Guiana. Five years ago the United States imported no bauxite from this region. Yet the tonnage now bulks as almost two-thirds of our imports of bauxite for making aluminum for kitchen ware.

British Guiana, the new land of aluminum, contains much of interest. In company with the other two Guianas, French and Dutch, it has received less attention from America than the South American republics.

Dutchmen Reclaimed Shore by Dikes When Acres Lay Untouched

British Guiana, the only colony of Great Britain on the mainland of South America, has great potential riches, but has always lacked the labor to bring its hidden wealth into usable form. It is a tropical land with much rich soil and an abundant growth of tropical plants. The first step in developing such a region is to push back the jungle; then a constant battle must be waged to keep it back.

Great rivers flow through the land, forming wide estuaries where they meet the sea. The earliest settlers, the Dutch, sailed up the wide streams and attempted to carve plantations from the forests on their banks. But this was the most difficult method of attack and, in addition, the soil in the areas selected was none too rich. Near the coast were wide mud flats of rich alluvial soil, without forest growth. Reclaiming overflowed lands was a problem better understood by Dutchmen, so they retreated before the forests and made a new start on the coastal lowlands. Dikes and drainage ditches were constructed, with a system of sluice gates to let the water out at low tide. In this way much rich land was brought under cultivation. Some of it is four feet below the level of the highest spring tides.

When the British captured the country from the Dutch in 1796 they continued to develop the coastal mud flats and the slightly higher land immediately inland, leaving the forests practically untouched. That policy has been followed pretty closely since, so that even now the inhabitants and development of British Guiana are in large part confined to a strip of territory from 10 to 50 miles wide along the coast.

East Indians Comprise Large Part of Population

The curtailment of the slave trade in 1807 handicapped development, and the abolition of slavery in 1831 brought ruin to numerous planters. Many plantations have been abandoned since that time. Efforts have been made to solve the labor problem, but none has permitted the colony to move forward to the prosperity to which its natural resources have always given promise. The most successful plan was the introduction of indentured labor from India between 1845 and 1917. The East Indians now number more than 125,000 in a population of approximately 300,000.

The blacks slightly exceed the East Indians in numbers. There are only

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Since that day pearl fishing has gone on in the La Paz neighborhood with the white man more or less in control of operations.

In time the pearl-oyster beds were partially exhausted in the vicinity of La Paz, for the Mexican Government has never compelled their proper conservation, and the pearlers were forced to go farther afield.

Nowadays the pearlers cruise, when they cruise at all, on the Pacific coast as far south as Manzanillo; but La Paz remains the center of the industry.

The mother-ships fit out there, and it is there that the pearls are brought to be sold to the experts who, in seasons of world prosperity, gather in the little mud-walled, palm-shaded, dusty village.

$200,000 for a Single Pearl

The pearls of the Orient are usually white and pink, which are precisely those which can best be imitated by the pearl counterfeiter. But the waters south of La Paz produce many black pearls, and brown pearls, and golden and gray pearls, and pearls of many another enticing tint. They do not run as true in form as those of Borneo, but their colors cannot be surpassed.

During recent boom times La Paz's streets ran with money. There is a story of a black pearl for which an Indian canoe crew—not one of whom, perhaps, had ever possessed more than a suit of white cotton and a wide hat—was paid $200,000.

NOTE: For further reference to Lower California and illustrations, see "Adventuring Down the West Coast of Mexico," National Geographic Magazine, November, 1922, "A Land of Drought and Desert," May, 1911, and "A Mexican Land of Canaan," October, 1919.

Bulletin No. 4, January 23, 1928.

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DIGGING FOR WATER IN LOWER CALIFORNIA: MEXICO

The long, boot-shaped peninsula has vast desert areas and ranges of barren hills which lie beneath a blistering sun, but there are also numerous fertile valleys which are the haunts of naturalists and big-game hunters. Here, also, hardy cattlemen prosper, their herds grazing over extensive unfenced pasture lands. The enormous mineral resources of the peninsula are as yet largely undeveloped, but perhaps its source of greatest potential wealth lies in its cotton-growing regions near the California border.

about 20,000 Europeans, while Chinese, aborigines, and mixed bloods make up the remainder.

British Guiana is a land of many rivers. Three very large ones flow northward to the coast: the Essequebo, Demerara, and Berbice. These are the main roads into the interior, especially the Demerara and Essequebo. The total mileage of railway in the country is about 100, all but 20 of it parallel to the coast and within 5 miles of the sea. The only inland rail mileage is a short stretch connecting the Demerara and Essequebo Rivers at a point above impassable rapids in the latter. The longest journey by mechanical means may be made for 65 miles up the Demerara by steamer, by rail 20 miles to the Essequebo, and thence by launch 60 or more miles up the latter.

British Guiana Has One of World's Greatest Waterfalls

The coast country is given over to agriculture, chiefly the production of sugar and rice. Inland the relatively slight activity is concentrated on the extractive industries, the collection of balata gum (a kind of hard rubber), the bringing out of small quantities of timber, and the placer mining of gold. The colony's diamond fields have produced millions of dollars' worth of gems in recent years. The timber industry has never been highly developed. Its most important contribution is the wood known as "green-heart," which is impervious to the marine borer, the teredo. It is used in dock and wharf construction throughout the world.

Rapids and cataracts are found in all the rivers; and about 200 miles from the coast, on the Potaro River, a tributary of the Essequebo, is Kaieteur Falls, one of the great waterfalls of the world.

Bulletin No. 5, January 23, 1928.

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AN OBSCURE AND ISOLATED WONDER OF THE WORLD: KAIETEUR, BRITISH GUIANA

The smooth, but rapid Potaro River, 400 feet wide, "flows quietly to the brink and turns quietly downward," breaking into soft white mist during its fall and reaching the bottom in a chaos of seething clouds. The water tumbles perpendicularly for the first 741 feet, then slopes as a cataract to a still reach below. The entire drop of 800 feet would make almost five Niagaras. When the day wanes, swallows return to the chasm for their night's rest in the cavern behind the falls.